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Attorney Docket: 225/44173
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: UTE NEGELE ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/058,810

Group Art Unit: 177355

Filed: APRIL 13, 1998

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Title: METAL SUBSTRATE FOR A VEHICLE BODY

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This supplements the Information Disclosure Statements submitted in the above-identified application on April 13, 1998, September 1, 1998, and November 16, 1998.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. The document is the sole reference cited in an Office Action from the German Patent Office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a translation of an excerpt from an office action by the German Patent and Trademark Office citing

Handwritten initials and date: 3-29-00

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such documents and indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

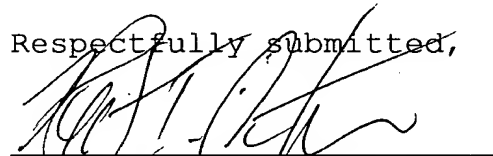
If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #225/44173).

March 21, 2000

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EVENSON, McKEOWN, EDWARDS
& LENAHA, P.L.L.C.
1200 G Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone No.: (202) 628-8800
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

Respectfully submitted,



Herbert I. Cantor
Registration No. 24,392
Michael I. Coe
Registration No. 40,958